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DEPARTMENT OF NURSING EDUCATION

IN CHARGE OF

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PROGRAMS FOR NURSES' MEETINGS

In response to a number of requests we are publishing this month a list of suggestive topics for nurses' meetings. An effort has been made here to select topics which are of rather immediate interest and to tap some new fields which bear directly on our work as a whole. Each subject will suggest a number of others, and each may be expanded almost indefinitely.

A discussion of the work of program committees will follow in next month's issue:

Nursing Education: Should training schools be endowed?

The question of an eight-hour day for pupil nurses from the economic, educational and hygienic point of view.

Why do students drop out after beginning training?

How can we attract better qualified women into the nursing profession?

What should be the minimum educational and age standards for admission to training schools?

What constitutes a high school education? How may the superintendent judge its kind and value?

Basis of affiliation between training schools and universities.

Reasons for and against specialization during the course of training.

Affiliation of general hospital training schools with hospitals for the insane.

Reasons for and against requiring contagious work for pupils in training.

Training school records.

Library facilities for pupil nurses.

Planning and equipment of class-rooms and laboratories.

Efficiency factors in the training of nurses—how to develop technical skill, and good management.

Importance of observation and judgment in nursing, and how to develop these qualities in pupil nurses.

Provision for the religious and social life of pupil nurses.

Meaning of personality, how it can be conserved and developed.

Reasons for and against the introduction of student government in the training school.

Fundamental principles of good teaching.

How to plan a lesson.

Some practical points in blackboard work.

The clinical versus the lecture method of teaching.

Importance of questioning, with illustrations of good and bad questions.

Fundamental principles of good administration.

The modern trend in vocational education and its suggestions for nursing schools.

The training school curriculum, selection and arrangement of studies in different types of schools.

How can we adjust the curriculum of the training school to meet present-day social needs?

What is the value of History of Nursing as a subject of study, where should it be placed in the curriculum, and how should it be taught? (Take up Ethics, Household Economy, Psychology, Social Problems, Occupations for Invalids, Chemistry, etc., in the same way.)

What are the newer demands in connection with the teaching of (a) Dietetics and Cookery, (b) Materia Medica and Therapeutics, (c) Hygiene, (d) Nursing of Infants and Children?

How can we teach pupils how to study?

Note books and note-taking.

Inexpensive illustrative material and teaching helps.

Organization of class-room and laboratory work in a training school.

How to make the greatest educational use of hospital facilities.

Basis of credit for theoretical and practical work in nurses' training schools.

The arrangement and supervision of the pupil's practical work.

Staff conferences for training school officers, purposes and methods of work.

Selection and use of text and reference books.

Courses of study for graduate nurses and methods of teaching.

Pupil nurses' organizations, their educational and social value.

The study of current events in the training school.

The value of organized physical training and recreation for pupil nurses.

Principles and methods of vocational guidance for the nurse in training.

The status and training of the attendant.

The status and training of the child nurse or nursery maid.

The training of colored and native nurses.

The problem of the amateur nurse.

Teaching of elementary courses in Home Nursing and First Aid.

The menace of correspondence and short-term schools.

What can the state do to foster nursing education?

Responsibility of the public for the education of nurses.

Courses of training for public health nurses.

Standards for measuring the efficiency of education (illustrated from the work of recent educational surveys in the field of elementary and secondary education).

History and present status of woman's education, with special reference to nursing education.

Cultural values in nursing education.

Institutional topics: The commercialization of hospitals and its effect on the care of the sick.

The educational and social function of the hospital.

Application of scientific management in hospital administration.

What to observe in visiting and inspecting hospitals.

Hospital versus home care of sick children.

The problems of the hospital in a small town.

The need of an organized nursing service in (a) almshouses; (b) prisons; (c) workhouses and reformatories; (d) institutions for defectives.

The function of the convalescent home and its relation to the hospital.

Utilization of volunteer effort in hospital work.

Occupational work in hospitals from the therapeutic and economic point of view.

Social and public health topics (of general interest): Ideals and methods of modern organized charity.

Organized publicity in social and public health work, its purpose and methods.

How to interpret statistics.

Recent developments in the control and treatment of (a) the drug habit; (b) alcoholism.

Social and medical aspects of prison reform.

The playground movement and its relation to public health.

Influence of the nurse in the "Americanization" of the immigrant.

Medical, social and nursing aspects of the midwife problem.

Recent publications on social diseases, sex education, heredity and eugenics.

Relation of the nurse to the question of birth control.

Function of the nurse in the prevention and control of cancer.

What is being done to prevent blindness?

Occupational work for the crippled and handicapped.

Social and health needs of rural communities.

Proposed legislation relating to health insurance and its significance for the nursing profession.

Recent labor legislation with special reference to the work of women and children.

The feeding of school girls and boys.

The family budget and its apportionment.

Food problems in relation to race and religion.

Recent development in the prevention and treatment of mental disease.

Mental hygiene (especially in relation to infancy and childhood).

Occupational diseases and occupational hygiene.

The tenement house problems and methods of sanitary inspection.

General nursing and medical topics: Progress in the field of occupational therapy.

The history and present status of psychotherapy as a method of treatment.

Recent experiments in the diagnosis and treatment of (a) pneumonia; (b) poliomyelitis; (c) diabetes; (d) rheumatism, etc.

Developments in surgery as a result of the war.

The technic of anoci-association.

Recent metabolism experiments and their bearing on the treatment of disease.

New applications and devices in the treatment of disease.

The present status of radium as a therapeutic agent.

The administration of salvarsan.

Artificial respiration, the lung motor versus the prone pressure method.

Psychological and physiological factors in the feeding of sick patients.

Common gaps in hospital technic.

Influence of environment on sick people.

Standardized treatment trays.

Sources of physical and mental discomfort in illness (from the patient's point of view).

The clinical thermometer as a source of infection.

The care and management of children in the hospital.

General professional topics, ethical and economic problems: The value of organization as illustrated by the history of local, state, national or international nursing organizations.

Professional standards; is nursing justified in calling itself a profession?

Lessons of the war for nurses.

Newer fields of work for graduate nurses.

The central registry versus the training school and commercial registry.

The educational function of the registry.

The economic status of the nurse as compared with that of other professional women.

The nurse's health, how it can be conserved.

The nurse's provision for sickness, accident and retirement.

What the nurse needs to know about business methods.

Laws affecting the nursing profession.

Club houses and hostelrys for nurses.

The administration of sick benefit and loan funds.

The function and management of alumnae magazines.

What an alumnae association can do for the training school.

Nursing history and literature: A survey of nursing literature, with special reference to recent contributions.

The nurse in poetry.

The nurse as depicted in the modern novel.

Leaders of nursing and nursing methods as depicted in ancient and mediaeval art.

Nursing and medical superstitions and their effect on the care of the sick.

Survey of medical history, showing the effect of the main schools of medical practice on the development of nursing, and the contributions of nursing to medicine.

Influence of the Church on nursing ideals and practices.

Military influences in the development of nursing.

Influence of the social and legal status of women on the development of nursing.

The history of hospitals.

The care of the insane in ancient and modern times.

The care of women in child-birth from the historical point of view.

History of sanitation with special reference to epidemics of the middle ages.

Ideas and customs relating to (a) birth, (b) death and burial.

Historical nursing landmarks in (a) America, (b) Europe.

The history of the Red Cross and military nursing.

The real Florence Nightingale (from the recent life of Florence Nightingale by Sir Edward Cook).

The nurse as a citizen.

The nurse of the future.